

Negro Business and Professional Directory of Greater Kansas City

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W. C. HUESTON, 601 Delaware, Home phone M58, Bell phone Main 448. Legal advice. Practices in all courts.

E. A. SHACKLEFORD, Attorney at Law, 516 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, Kas. Bell phone, West 3866.

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ARMY GETS NEW OFFICERS.

TEN PICKED MEN GRADUATED FROM MOUNTED SERVICE SCHOOL.

Non-Commissioned Officers From Ten Cavalry Regiments Completed a Rigorous Course of Technical Training at Fort Riley.

Fort Riley, Kas., April 29.—The non-commissioned officers of the American army has risen to a new dignity. Ten of them, picked men who looked the part, were graduated today from the Mounted Service School, the second non-commissioned class in the history of the mounted service. They went through a program marking their successful completion of a highly technical and rigorous course. After the final number a cross-country race, which should have been perpetuated in the movies, but was not, they came to attention beneath a great bluff at the forking of Forsyth and Coyote canyons, and received their diplomas from Col. Charles A. P. Hatfield. The ten were chosen for character, intelligence and soldierly qualities and were sent to Fort Riley last September to take their master's degrees. For seven months they have studied equitation, horse training, horsemanship, swordsmanship and the pistol in the exam school and under the same instruction as the student commissioned officers. They now join their regiments, all but one of which are in Mexico or on the border.

The army is being increased to war strength and legislation is now before congress to increase its strength. As a result raw recruits are pouring into the army hoppers and will come in increasing numbers. Their metamorphosis from farm boys and factory hands to enlisted men require more than the manual of arms and a uniform. There is more than that to the enlisted man's job as conducted now on the American plan.

The Task of the Officials.

The officers, therefore, face a big task in training the new army. But in the cavalry branch of the service they are going to have the expert assistance of the class that graduated today and its predecessor of last year. These graduate noncoms, know the best ways of teaching the rookies to ride, to care for horse in stable or in the field, how to use the saber and the pistol, mounted and dismounted, everything a trooper needs to know. But they will be more than valuable assistants to the officers of their regiments. Each will be a capable militia instructor and in case of war a commission will be waiting for him. In a hastily organized volunteer regiment his experience and skill would show to special advantage.

One of the ten is a negro, Sergt. Price Sharp, Troop I, Tenth Cavalry. Another is Top Sergt. Hurley Richardson, who has been non-com. boss of Troop C, Sixth Cavalry, for more years than his superior officers remember and who will be a fixture of the Sixth until he goes on the pension rolls.

The others are Top Sergt. John W. Dimond, Mounted Service School detachment; Sergt. Meredith M. Casana, First Cavalry; Sergt. Nicholas Long, Second Cavalry; Sergt. Alvin Nowell, Eleventh Cavalry; Sergt. John H. Watkins, Twelfth Cavalry; Sergt. Michael A. Gaffney, Thirteenth Cavalry; Sergt. Charles A. Lindsay, Mounted Service School detachment, and Corp. Barney Swentey, Third Cavalry.

Horses and men were graduated together. When the students gather at the Mounted Service School in the fall they receive raw colts from the remount station at Fort Royal. At the end of the year the colts, now transformed, are promoted to training colts. At the end of the second year they are promoted to schooled horses, and after a third year they go out to serve their enlistment.

Education does no less for horses than for men. Animals that were unbroken mongrel colts, fresh from the farm last summer, already are sleek, haughty and highly disciplined. And the mongrel colts of two years ago stepped like high school horses of the bluest Kentucky blood as they went through their paces yesterday in the riding hall. Caste is no barrier to educated horseflesh.

Few Civilians There.

The graduating exercises included fencing, mounted saber drill, riding hall drills with the breaking colts, training colts, school horses and the jumpers, riding over an outdoor obstacle course with the training colts, and a cross-country ride with the jumpers. It was the show part of a winter's hard work at what is very valuable, but at most a not very ornate cavalry task.

Only a handful of civilians saw the two days' work. "It is to be regretted," Captain H. R. Richmond, acting commandant of the school, commented, "that our great military establishments like Riley are not within five or ten cent rides of great cities. If the people of the United States could get better acquainted with their army there would be fewer misunderstandings. A little exhibition like this, for instance, would clear up many false notions. In time of trouble the American is apt to declare that we have the finest army in the world, the best officers, the bravest men and such, and in long periods of peace he is just as likely to argue that the army is worthless, the officers overpaid loafers and the men worse."

HOWARD DREW SETS A NEW RECORD.

Howard P. Drew, the Los Angeles sprinter, on April 29 created a new world's record for ninety yards when he won one of the feature attractions of the annual games at the Smart Set Athletic club in the Thirteenth Regiment armory, Brooklyn, in nine seconds flat, clipping one-fifth of a second off the former mark, which he established himself in 1914. The Negro flyer won by more than a yard from Frank Stephens of the Trinity club.



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